

Message Text

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14

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 SAJ-01

TRSE-00 AID-05 CEA-01 COME-00 EB-07 FRB-03 CIEP-01

STR-04 LAB-04 SIL-01 SAM-01 OMB-01 /088 W

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R 201658Z JUL 76

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0546

INFO USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

C O N F I D E N T I A L BONN 12238

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR EEC GW

SUBJECT: SCHMIDT'S THOUGHTS ON THE EC COMMISSION

REF: BONN 11996

1. ACCORDING TO FOREIGN OFFICE SOURCES, CHANCELLOR SCHMIDT SECURED COMMITMENT AT JULY 12-13 MEETING OF EUROPEAN COUNCIL FOR A REVIEW OF THE EC BUREAUCRACY BY THE INCOMING PRESIDENT, ROY JENKINS.

2. ACCORDING TO THESE SAME SOURCES, INCLUDED IN THIS REVIEW IS A POSSIBILITY IN A REDUCTION OF THE SIZE OF THE COMMISSION. SCHMIDT IS REPORTED TO HAVE MADE HIS VIEWS CLEAR: THERE ARE TOO MANY COMMISSIONERS, AS
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WELL AS TOO MANY BUREAUCRATS. THE LARGE COUNTRIES IN

THE EC NEED ONLY ONE COMMISSIONER INSTEAD OF TWO.

3. FOREIGN MINISTER GENSCHER, WHO CONTROLS THE APPOINTMENT OF THE FRG'S SECOND COMMISSIONER IN THE PRESENT COALITION GOVERNMENT, IS KNOWN NOT TO SHARE SCHMIDT'S OPINION ON THIS POINT.

4. WHILE HE WAS IN BRUSSELS, SCHMIDT ALSO EXPRESSED HIS DISMAY OVER THE SIZE OF THE EC BUREAUCRACY AT A PRESS BACKGROUNDER. HE ALSO STATED IN THIS FORUM HIS BELIEF THAT THE COMMISSION IS TOO LARGE. HE ADDED A REMARK THAT HE IS SURE HE WILL BE OPPOSED IN HIS ATTEMPT TO REDUCE THE SIZE OF THE COMMISSION BY THE ITALIANS, SINCE THEY HAVE AN ENDLESS STREAM OF POLITICIANS WHOM THEY WANT TO SEND TO LUCRATIVE JOBS IN BRUSSELS. SCHMIDT APPEALED TO THE REPORTERS NOT TO PRINT THIS LAST REMARK.

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